

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A file system protection method used in a single computer system having a volatile storage and a non-volatile storage, and means for simultaneously executing a plurality of operating systems (OSs on the single computer system), said method comprising steps of:

copying, by a first OS, files to be used by a second OS ~~and stored on~~ from said non-volatile storage, onto said volatile storage; [[and]]

executing said first and second OSs simultaneously on the single computer system, wherein the simultaneous execution includes using said copied files to execute said second OS[[,]];

storing data used for updating the copied files into said volatile storage without updating the files stored in said non-volatile storage; and

re-starting said second OS with copying the files from said non-volatile storage onto said volatile storage without using the updated copied files, thereby starting an OS from a file system in a predetermined state each time said single computer system is re-started.

2. (Original) The file system protection method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein an OS not having a non-volatile storage stores a file by communicating with an OS having a volatile storage.

3. (Currently amended) The file system protection method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said second OS of said single computer system has a communication device, and when an OS on an external computer having a communication device and a non-volatile storage exchange a

file with said second OS via said communication devices, said second OS stores the file on said non-volatile storage of said external computer.

4. (Original) The file system protection method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said first OS and said second OS have communication devices which are connected to each other by a communication line, and when exchanging a file via the communication devices, said second OS stores the file on said non-volatile storage of said first OS.

5. (Currently amended) The file system protection method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein when said first OS and said second OS exchange a file by communication via said means for simultaneously executing a plurality of ~~[[OS]]~~ OSs, the second OS stores the file on said non-volatile storage of said first OS.

6. (Currently amended) A file system protection apparatus used in a single computer system having a volatile storage and a non-volatile storage, ~~and means for simultaneously executing a plurality of operating systems~~, said apparatus comprising:

means for copying by a first ~~[[OS]]~~ operating system (OS), files to be used by a second OS ~~[[on]]~~ from said non-volatile storage, onto said volatile storage; ~~[[and]]~~

means for executing said first and second OSs simultaneously on the single computer system, wherein the simultaneous execution includes using the copied files to execute said second ~~[[OS,]]~~ OS;

means for storing data used for updating the copied files into said volatile storage without updating the files stored in said non-volatile storage; and

means for re-starting said second OS with copying the files from said non-volatile storage onto said volatile storage without using the updated copied files, thereby starting an OS from a file system in a predetermined state each time said single computer system is re-started.

7. (Currently amended) A storage medium having a program for executing a file system protection method ~~used~~ in a single computer system having a volatile storage and a non-volatile storage, and means for simultaneously executing a plurality of operating systems (OSs) on the single computer system, wherein said medium is readable by a computer and said method comprises steps of:

copying, by a first OS, files to be used by a second OS ~~and stored on~~ from said non-volatile storage, onto said volatile storage; [[and]]

executing said first and second OSs simultaneously on the single computer system, wherein the simultaneous execution includes using said copied files to execute said second OS[[,]];

storing data used for updating the copied files into said volatile storage without updating the files stored in said non-volatile storage; and

re-starting said second OS with copying the files from said non-volatile storage onto said volatile storage without using the updated copied files, thereby starting an OS from a file system in a predetermined state each time said single computer system is re-started.

8. (New) A program for execution by a computer system, embodied in at least one medium, the program comprising:

a first operating system for execution by said computer system using a file system from non-volatile storage of said computer system;

a second operating system for execution by said computer system using a file system from volatile storage of said computer system; and

a multi-operating system organizer for causing said computer system to execute the first operating system and the second operating system simultaneously and for providing inter-operating system communication between the first operating system and the second operating system, wherein:

at each start-up of said computer system, files are copied from the file system in the non-volatile storage to serve as the file system in the volatile storage for use during the execution of the second operating system; and

during execution of the second operating system, one or more of the files in the volatile storage of said computer system are updated by the second operating system, without updating files in the file system in the non-volatile storage.